THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFROMATION AND BORADCASTING (SHRI AJIT PANJA). What is surprising in it there?

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA Is it not surprising ? Do you not say that?

[*Translation*]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Muzaffarpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have given you due notice that Memerica has put pressure on Russia not to trasfer the rocket technology.

AN HON. MEMBER: It is the question hour.

SHRI GEORGE FERNADES: Yes, I want the question hour to be suspended because a dangerous situation has come up before the country about which we already knoew that it would definitely come up. When any country surrenders to America, America can go to any extent in dealing with that country. We have got two fresh examples before us Cuba has been the oldest friend of ours but, we are unable to send 10 thousand tonnes of rice to it. America tells Russia that if they trasfer rocket technology to India then. (*Interruptions*). This matter is linked with the security of our country. Those who are shorting, will never realize the gravity of the siutation. What can be a more important matter for the country than this one? (Interruptions)

[*Enlgish*]

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA (Cuttack): Let the Question Hour be suspended and it should be discussed.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: They are compromising the sovereignty of the country. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I have received a notice. I think, that the Members think that this matter is very important. If they want it, certainly it can be discussed immediately after the Question Hour is over. Moreiover, we are going to discuss the Demands of the External Affairs Ministry in the afternoon.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Do not mix up that, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: There would be an opportunity for other Members also who want to pariticipate in it while discussing this. Otherwise, the right of the private Members to ask a quuestion will be denied. In view of that, we will continue with the Question Hour.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI INDER JIT (Darjeeling): Sir, the official spokesman has already denied that. There is no truth in tt. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: After the Question Hour, let there be a discussion on it. It should be discussed under the Adjournment Motion.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY (Jagatsingpur): The USA is pressuring other countries..

MR. SPEAKER: I have gone to the questions.

11.06 hrs

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*Translation*]

Power Generation in DVC

*653. SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the generation of electricity in units of Durgapur under D.V. C. had come to a standstill;

(b) whether three units out of six in Chandrapura and one unit out of two in Bokaro have closed down;

(c) the extent of loss of power generation as a result thereof; and

(d) the steps Government propoe to take to recommission these units?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (d). A Statement is laid on the Table of House.

STATEMENT

(a) & (b). Unit Nos. 1 & 2 (2x55 MW) of Durgapur Thermal Power Station of DVC were de-commissioned from October, 1985 when they suffered extensive damage in a fire accident. Units Nos. 3 & 4 (1x 140 MW, 1x210 MW) of Durgapur stopped generating from 29th January and 11th Feb., 1992 due to forced outages resulting from failure of Turbine and LP Rotorblades respectively.

Chandrapura TPS Unit No. 1 (140 MW) is under planned shutdown from 29th November, 1991 for scheduled overhauling including installation of new generator transformer and hooking up of new electrostatic precipitator.

Unit No.4 (40 MW) of Bokaro Thermal Power Station is under shut-down from February, 1989 due to falure of LP Rotor blades.

(c) The loss in installed capacity which could have contributed to generation works out to 390 MW comprising of the following:-

Durgapur	*TPS*
Unit-3	140 MW
Unit-4	210 MW
Bokaro	*TPS*
Unit-4	40 MW

(d) All steps are being taken by DVC to arrange for spares wherever required, diversion of some spares from other units and to expedite execution of work by BHEL and others.

[*Translation*]

SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the eletrical engineers play an important role in the production of electricity. Several dispute are going on between the electrical engineers and the Corporation for so many years and the court cases are pending, Though The Corporation loses the case yet it goes on appealing. The Calcutta High Court has written in the judgement of the case of Dass Gupta Cheif Engineer. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please come to the question.

[*English*]

SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA: This Corporation is far from being impartial and objective.

[*Translation*]

The court has also mentioned in the judgement that:

[*English*]

"it is a matter of fact that at several times, some Officers have misled the Corporation."

MR. SPEAKER: What is your question, Vermaji?

[*Translation*]

SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA: I am asking the question. The main reason of stoppage of production is discontent prevailing among the electrical engineers. The discontent is increasing day by day.Out of the three members of the Corporation one is Shri B.K. Singh, Commissioner, Secretary, Department of Energy. He has written to the Chairman, General Manager and additional

secre tary to the Government of India. Has the Government.. (*Interruptions)*

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I expect you to put the question.

[*Translation*]

SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA: I am asking whether the Government was aware of the situation? Does the Government know the names of the officers too, who have been mentioned in the judgement of the High Court?

SHRI KALPNATH RAI: Mr. Speaker Sir, the question raised by the Hon. Member is not at all related to the original one. Therefore, separate notice is required for the same.

SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA: It can not be so. Electricity productuion is very much related with the electricity engineers. If the hon. Minister does not have any information about it then, I think, he can not have any more information about electricity. When, there is discontent and litiagation in the Corporation, how the production will incrrease? Does the Government think, about?

SHRI KALPNATH RAI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, on 21st June, 1991 when the Government came into power, the plant load factor of D.V.C. was 28 per cent on that day, today it is 36 oer cent and it was 48 per cent in January,, It means there is adequate improvement in the functioning of the Corporation; that is why the production has increased.

SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA: It is clear. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER; You have asked both the supplementaries.

[*English*]

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Sir, according to his own statement, two units went out of commission in 1985. That was in 1985 and now it is 1992. I do not want to go into the details here. Now the situation is that the power generation is less by more then 400 MWs (140 MW, 210 MW and 40MW). This is going on for such a long time and you know that West Bengal, Bihar and Orissa, they are dependent on this DVC supply. All of us there are in trouble. What he said was that all steps are being taken by DVC to arrange for spares wherever required, diversion of some spares from other units and to expedite execution of work by BHEL and others. This is a vague answer. We would like to know what is the time-bound programme drawn up for this so that in this very summer we do have proper supply form DVV?

SHRI KALP NATH RAI; Mr. Speaker, sir, I agree with the hon. Member that two units of Durgapur were shut-down because of the big fire that took place in 1985 and the two units were de-commissioned. And two uinits of the Dirgapur are also not working because as much power generation as is needed, is not taking place. But what is the reason, that we are not in a position to say because these two units were puchased form Germany. And the Ministry of Power has submitted a report to the Finance Ministry. When the foreign exchange is tied up and funds are available then this will be corrected.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, due to fire, mechganical as well as some other defects in 5 units at differebt Power House of Damodar Valley corporation, more than 400 M.W. electricity is not being supplied. The main source of electricity in Bihar is D.V.C. How for this shoprtage of electriticithy has effected Bihar and what the hon. Minister has in mind to compensate this loss?

SHRI KALI P NATH RAI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the question raised by the hon. Member is right, but there is a very important point involved in this whole matter and that point is that Bihar and West Bengal Government have not cleared their dues which are public to Damodar Valley Corporation. Today an amount of Rs. 403 crore and Rs. 103 crores

is due against Bihar and West Bengal Government respectively. Bihar Government has not paid even a single pie from 1989 to 1992 till date. If there is any defect in the machines or if the machines are defective, naturally we need money for their repair. The Central Government has writtten several letters to Bihar Government and I would request hon. Ram Lakhan ji to help us in recovering the balance amount of Rs. 403 crore, so that we may try to get the machines repaired.

[*English*]

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY: Sir, since sever years, two units have been destroyed by fire. In the meanwhile, I want to know whether the Government has made any attempt to repair it by indigenous technology and if not why? Why such a long time was taken by the DVC authorities to negotiate with Germany and seeking the permission of the Government after seven years? What are the reasons behind it?

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, originally when the DVC came into existence, these machines were taken from Germany. Now those machines have been damaged. And for the replacement of those machines and technology, we have to take assistance from that country and for that foreign exchange is required. On why a fire took place, for that a Committee was instituted.(*Interruptions*)

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY: Sir, that is a different thing. We are not asking about the fire.

My question is that after it was destroyed by the fire, why you have not immediately taken steps either to import the parts from Germany or to repair it by indigenous technology. What are the efforts you have made during this period; we want to know from you concretely.

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: My Government has taken the steps. Now the tenders have been invited. Tendres are also pending for the decision. (Interruptions) You know for two years there was a non-Congress Government and the whole country was on fire. Nothing took place. (Interruptions)

SHRI LOKANATH CHODHURY: Do not blame the non-congress Governments only blame yourself also.

SHRI KALP NATH RAI; My duty is to reply the question. Now the Government of India is taking steps. We have invited the tender. Even the work for Durgapur Unit-4 was given for overhauling to BHEL and they did not do the work properly. Again the machine was damaged. The question is, as for the technology which we have taken from foreign countries, during the initial stage if any damage takes place, we have to request the concerned authorities to repair the damaged portion.

Telecast of "Thirukural" Quotes

*654. SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR. JANARTHANAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the nature and extent of the coverage of "Thirukural-a famous work of great Saint Thiruvalluvar" by the All India Radio particularly Tamil Nadu Radio Station;

(b) the future plans for the expansion of radio coverage;

(c) whether the Doordarshan has any plan to telecast "Thirukural " quotes; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) The coverage consists of the following:-

(i) Recitation of one couplet from Thirukural alongwith a short explanatory talk.